. IBHANY

MAY 31 1921

# SCANDINAVIAN REMEW

# Poetry from Iceland & Scandia

Holger Drachmann Märta af Sillen

David Stefansson

J. P. Jacobsen

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AND

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#### FINANCIAL NOTES

BANKING AND FORESTRY

Svenska Handelsbanken recently issued an interesting little pamphlet about the parallel between the development of the timber-industry and that of greater financial institutions in Sweden. The modern timber-industry depends to a great extent upon bank credit, but on the other hand the existence of many local bank institutions is based upon the two great natural resources, iron and timber. The immense forest regions with their bound capital of unnumbered millions of value gave birth to these banks, and so the forest industry and the banks grew up together. Therefore the relation between the two is almost of an organic nature. Time after time it was necessary to facilitate business and demand of credit in a way which the local smaller banks could not afford. This caused amalgamations of financial institutions, and the result was the origin of the Swedish "great-banks."
At the same time the work of the small and primitive sawmills, at first almost mere craft, grew up to the first and largest industries. to the first and largest industries, the products of which are known all over the world.

To GUIDE AUSTRIA'S FINANCES

New York banking circles were greatly interested in the cable from Copenhagen stating that the Allies had induced Etatsraad Emil Glückstadt. head of Landmandsbanken, to take charge of Austria's financial affairs and endeavor to get some order out of that country's economic chaos. Mr. Glückstadt at one time was an employe of the National City Bank and while here obtained a firm grasp on American financial affairs. His valuable work as a member of the Reparations Commission at Brussels attracted the attention of the Allies to the Danish banker. The situation was described by Julius Moritzen in an article in *The Annalies*.

ANOTHER LABOR BANK

Following the example of the Brotherhood of Locomotive Engineers, the Central Labor Union of Philadelphia is said to have gained the support of the unions of that city for the formation of the Producers' and Consumers' Coöperative Bank. With the labor interests in this undertaking is associated Wharton Baker, formerly Populist candidate for President, who is named as the advisor of those who organized the bank. While the Brotherhood of Locomotive Engineers obtained a national charter for their bank, the Philadelphia bank will be a private institution managed by trustees under a deed of trust. The authorized capital is to be \$100,000,000.

BRITISH AMERICA NICKEL CORPORATION

In order to provide for the development of the British America Nickel Corporation, the Norwegian financial interests concerned met and decided that the plan of Sam Eyde is the most practical presented and that Centralbanken, with the cooperation of other Norwegian banks, should raise a capital of \$2,000,000, bonds of the corporation for the similar amount becoming guarantee for new subscribers. The meeting was held in Bergen, where the Norwegian interests in the British America Nickel Corporation are centered.

NOT CORRECTLY REPORTED

The Swedish Chamber of Commerce, through its Trade Journal, has made public the fact that some time ago an American export Association reflected in Sweden's financial position in such a way as to call forth a protest by the Swedish organization. Corrections of the misleading and fallacious report were immediately published in the daily news-papers, and the trade association apologized at once. The Trade Journal then presents facts which show the excellent position of the Swedish banks and points out how the Swedish Government, and points out how the Swedish Government, through a special commission, safeguards the interests of individuals and business concerns in every possible way. Contrary to what had been reported, the Swedish banks are not large stockholders in industrial enterprises, as the laws are very rigorous on that point.

FINLAND'S CUSTOMS REVENUES

The total revenue from the customs houses in Finland during 1920 amounted to 428,786,324 marks as compared to 242,037,196 marks during the year before. Calculating 30 marks to the dollar the figures would stand as \$14,292,877 as against \$15,716,701. The excise on tobacco yielded \$5,067,-254 as against \$4,426,101 in 1919.

THE \$15,600,000 CLAIM

The claim of the Owners' Association of Norway for \$15,600,000 against the U. S. Shipping Board has been presented by a special committee which has arrived here from that country. The claim dates back to August 3, 1917, and resulted from the seizing of ships built for Norwegian accounts. The committee is now appealing to the State Department for a settlement. A full account of this claim appeared in the April Region. claim appeared in the April Review.

EXPERT ESTIMATES FOR GERMANY
Bernard M. Baruch, who was chairman of the
American Reparations Commission at Versailles, in a recent statement estimated that \$15,000,000,000, less \$3,000,000,000 already paid, is the capital sum Germany is able and probably willing to pay for reparations. Mr. Baruch is believed to have expressed the opinion of the Wilson administration, where his judgment was considered of high value because of his intimate knowledge of international financial affairs.

SWEDISH INDUSTRIES BLUE

The reports which week by week filter through by radio or cable from the Swedish industries for the last three months of 1920 are almost as dismal as the corresponding reports in the United States. The net profit realized during 1920 by AB. Separator amounted to Kr. 6,800,000 compared with Kr. 11,700,000 for the previous 12 months. The board of directors recommended a dividend cut from 13 to 8%. Stora Kopparbergs Bergslags AB. profit amounted to Kr. 9,350,000 as against Kr. 8,100,000; dividend of 15 per cent. AB. Svenska Kullager Fabriken shows a net profit of Kr. 7,670,-000 compared with Kr. 11,270,000 for the previous year; proposed reduction from 15 to 7 per cent. On March 21 Nordiska Kullager AB. suspended indefinitely, throwing a thousand hands out of work. Even the great Grängesberg Iron Company earned four million kronor less than the year before, although the reserve fund made possible the usual 18 per cent bonanza.



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#### CONTRIBUTORS TO THE JUNE NUMBER

The series of twelve articles on American Tendencies of the Past Ten Years scheduled for publication in 1921 is interrupted with this issue and will be spread over a period of two years. Five have appeared—Poetry, Education, Politics, Sports, and Applied Sciences, and the next essay will be by Dr. Egan, on "What Americans Read." It is hoped that the twelve articles will eventually appear in book form in the English and Scandinavian languages.

With the June number we introduce a number of poets and translators who have not previously made their debut in the Review, as well as several old friends who prefer "bound" to "unbound" modes of expression. First among them is Albert van Sand, of New York, a Dane by birth, poet and contributor to Danish-American papers. He appeared anonymously in the March number of the Review as translator of Drachmann's "Pontoon Bridge."

Samuel Foster Damon and Robert Hillyer, Foundation Fellows to Denmark, and graduates of Harvard University, interpret in their poems in this number their newly gained affection for Denmark and its literature. Both are known among the younger American poets; Mr. Hillyer for his Five Books of Youth and Alchemy, and Mr. Damon for his interpretation of William Blake. They are preparing an Anthology of Danish Verse, and it is to be expected that the translations from Drachmann and Jacobsen will be included.

In English dress we greet two members of Sweden's chorus of youth. Märta Af Sillén, a daughter of Chamberlain Josef af Sillén, promises to be the best woman poet of Sweden. But twenty-two years old, she has a dash and spirit combined with a sense of beauty that makes her equal to any of the younger poets. Erik Blomberg is likewise a coming Swedish poet.

DAVID STEFANSSON, is a young Icelandic poet of great promise, the author of a volume of poems called *Svartar Fjadrir* (Black Feathers), a first volume showing decided evidence of power and much individuality of both expression and imagery. His translator is a Canadian of Icelandic heritage, professor of Classics at Wesley College, in Winnipeg.

Rabindranath Tagore in a recent letter, paid tribute to the powers of Charles Wharton Stork as a translator. "I find," says the great Indian poet, "hardly any trace of torture which the typical soul of poetry suffers from when transmitted from one body to another. I thank you for the opportunity you have given me for enjoying things of beauty that are joy forever."

Mrs. Stella E. Asling-Ris is a descendant of the old Scottish chieftain, John Galbraith, Laird of Balgair, and was born near Toronto, though now a resident of Greater New York. She is author of several books and a writer on metaphysical subjects.

Bering Liisberg belongs to the Review's family circle. To our January number he contributed an article on early Danish exploration in America. This popular author of historical essays is custodian of the priceless collection of Danish royal antiques in Rosenborg Palace, Copenhagen.

ADOLPH BURNETT BENSON, assistant professor of Scandinavian languages at Yale University, is a regular contributor to the Review.



Painting in Rosenborg Castle by Karel van Mander LEONORA CHRISTINE

(See page 386)

# AMERICAN-SCANDINAVIAN REVIEW

VOLUME IX

JUNE, 1921

NUMBER 6



# ·THE · FIDDLERD ·

Translated from the Danish by Albert Van Sand

The fiddler his violin tore from the wall And went to the wood away: "Ho! lassies fair Come banish your care, The master gave leave to be gay—A frolicsome dance With Peter or Hans And others coming after. I fiddle for one, I fiddle for youth, yea, and laughter."

Bind your skirt and braid your hair, Put on your festive bonnet; The parson's lea is firm and fair And the dance goes gaily upon it.

Then on went the dance with laughter and life Out in the woods and away. There was a trace In the open space Where feet had been running astray.
When twilight came on
The dancers were gone,
Through the leaves came laughter and sighing.
The morning light dawned on two lingering there,
But one was so softly a-crying.

Bind your skirt and braid your hair, Put on your festive bonnet; The parson's lea is firm and fair And the dance goes gaily upon it.

### Carmencita

From the Swedish of Märta of Sillen

By Charles Wharton Stork

Let the candle flash more brightly
On me once before I go!
Mother, do my teeth shine whitely?
Does the comb look finest so?
Good; then give me my mantilla,
And my shawl of crimson dye!
Was there ever in Sevilla
Seen a handsomer girl than I?

Hark to mandolin and zitter

As the rhythmic dance-notes pour!

And the girls there, how they titter,

Ogling many a dark señor!

Click of castanets entices

And the jingling tambourine,

Scent of fruit and stinging spices

And the wine-smell fiery-keen.

See the ruddy lanterns beaming
From the roof-tree overhead!
How that young girl's cheek is gleaming!
And her lover's, too, is red.
Proud, with pocket lightly laden,
He, and shabby now his fair
Satin, yet for him the maiden
Twined yon flower in her hair.

Oh, a splendour, softly glancing,
Rests on them and seems to gloat,
All the tawdriness enhancing,
Ragged skirt and threadbare coat.
'Twas your last poor maravedi,
Manuela, well I ween,
That you gave to look the lady
With yon ribbon-knot of green.

Ha! the dance intoxication!

Lamps and faces reel and swing,
And I leap in mad elation,
On the table with a spring.

Ho, you fellows, quiet there a
Moment! Silence, Pedro, thou!

Quick, play up a habanera!
Carmencita dances now.

# Jeg Hörer I Natten Den Vuggende Lyd

From the Danish of Holger Drachmann

By ROBERT HILLYER

I hear in the midnight the slumberless
Lull of Venetian waters.
From under the arches
Solemnly marches
A steady procession of numberless
Ripples, mournful and slow.
They are tiny dwarfs from the Mountain where stands
The Palace of Marble; from far-away lands
They come, row on row.
They are bearing a burden; they are chanting a song;
Pacing sombrely nearer, a sorrowing throng
Whose voices rise up to me out of the night;
Thou art dead, Snow-white!

I see vaguely the fair apparition White-clad, of a wax-pale child, Who lures me, who minds me Of some thing that blinds me With grief, as beholding that vision My head burns, my heart aches with frost. How calm is her brow; how serenely at rest She lies with her hands child-like on her breast Trustfully crossed, And there in the curve of her breast is a spray Of the green oleander that blooms for a day,— Ah, why do I hear through the depth of the night: Thou art dead, Snow-white!

The winds are awaking, they smother
The choir of the somnolent waters;
The darkness grows vaster;
The ripples run faster,
They hurry against one another
And scatter the shapes they have drawn.
The dwarfs have gone back to the far-away lands,
To the Mount where the Palace of Marble stands,
Through the gate of the dawn.
I sit on the threshold, bitterly wise;
Ah, how did those visions, those voices arise
From an old fairytale through the desolate night:
Thou art dead, Snow-white!

### Abba-Labba-Lá

From the Icelandic of David Stefansson By Skuli Johnson

i.
Her name was Abba-labba-lá,
She was dark of cheek and brow,
And her cabin in the wood
'Neath the green-grown branches stood;
With faith in stocks and stones indued
Was Abba-labba-lá.

ii.

And no one knew from what place
She came into this wood;

And none knew for what reason
She played in mad-cap mood;

And why she struck and bit—that
No mortal understood.

iii.

Her name was Abba-labba-lá,
She was dark of cheek and brow,
And all who sought to win her
She maddened—none knew how.
By the blood of wild beasts,
By the blood of wild beasts,
Lived Abba-labba-lá.

iv.

. . . At one time beheld I
Abba-labba-lá.

She danced within the forest,
Dark of cheek and brow.

Loudly her I hailed then—
My heart was touched, I trow—
"Abba-labba,
Abba-labba,
Abba-labba-lá!"

She kissed me and laughed when
She'd come to my side,
Then bit me and sucked all
My blood—so I died.

vi.
O'er sea and land now shout I,
A spectre from the howe:
"Beware, poor mortals,
Beware, poor mortals,
Of Abba-labba-lá!"

# An Arabesque

From the Danish of J. P. JACOBSEN

By S. FOSTER DAMON

Have you wandered bewildered in darkening forests?

Have you known Pan?

I once was smitten;

Not in the sombre forests

While all the silent whispered.

No, that Pan I have never known,

But I have felt the Pan of passion

When all Voices were hidden.

In sun-flooded regions
Grows an unimagined herb;
Only in bitterest stillness,
Under a thousand flames of the sun
Opens its blossom
For an evanescent moment.
It blazes like a maniac's eye,
Like death's red cheeks.
This have I perceived
In my hour of ecstasy.

She was like the subtle snow of the jasmine, The blood of poppies moved in her veins, Her cold, marmoreal hands
Lay in her lap
Like nenuphars on a profound tarn.
Her syllables sank
As fall the fragile petals of apple-trees
To the dew-cool grass;
But there were hours
When they writhed coldly and clearly,
The perfect jet of a fountain.
There was a sigh behind her laughter
And triumph behind her tears.
Before her all things bowed themselves,—
Two things alone defied her:
Her own proud eyes.

From the dangerous lily's Dazzling chalice She drank to me, To him who is dead,
And to him now beneath her tread.
To us all she drank
(And then her eyes for once obeyed her)
The faith of irrefragible vows
From the dangerous lily's
Dazzling chalice.

All has fallen!
On the snowy plain
Among the brown trees
Grows a lonely Thorn.
The stray gusts claim its leaves.
One by one,
One by one,
It rains slowly its blood-red berries
Upon the white snow,
Glowing berries
On the cold snow.—
Have you known Pan?

# Flower-Market, Copenhagen

By ROBERT HILLYER

In the gray November haze
Gold and scarlet flowers shine
Like a moveless line
Of torches all ablaze.
Down the long row
Behind the flowers, glow
The faces of old women, framed
In shawls as gay as any garden.
Blatant youth is shamed
Where age is so serenely young;
These faces never harden,
These smiles have never learned deceit;
The years go by on stealthy feet,
And never trample souls among
The quiet byways of a garden.
They smile at me, hold up their prize
Bouquets to catch my wandering eyes;
"Good-day, good-day; it's going to rain!"
I nod, and swing my cane.
Chrysanthemum and holly bough,
Late daisy, fern, and pale carnation—
I can't commit myself just now!

St. Anthony's supreme temptation, Had the tempter known his powers, Would have been a flower-stall; Dear ladies, I'm in love with all Of you, and all your flowers! This old woman brought to town Her good cat Hilda, to assist; They talk, she looking kindly down On the gray whiskers rimed with mist And great gold eyes, while Hilda's purrs Denote what happiness is hers. Flower-cat and woman, who Could decently resist the two? Two kroner? "Yes, they're cheap this year;—Ah, thank you!" She adjusts her shawl To shelter Hilda from the showers. Down the shining line I go; Flowers and faces in a row Through the drizzle smile and glow; Dear ladies, I'm in love with all Of you, and all your flowers! -From the Outlook.



### Old Swedish Church Endowments

The old Swedish Churches on the Delaware occupy a unique position in the historical development of our American civilization and Christianity. In spite of their present unfavorable surroundings they are still centres of religious activities and will continue to be so for generations to come. Large sums have been spent for keeping these historical buildings in good repair and restoring them to

their original appearance.

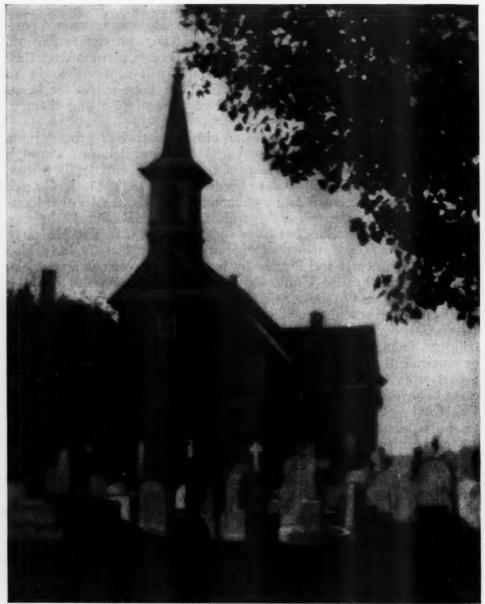
Gloria Dei, Philadelphia, has an old inheritance of ground rents representing a total value of about fifty thousand dollars. Through the foresight and persistent efforts of the late Rev. Snyder B. Simes. Rector of the parish from 1868 to his death July 18, 1915, the Church secured an endowment fund now amounting to about fifty-five thousand dollars. By the will of his widow, Eleanor R. Simes, the sum of sixty thousand dollars has been added. Descendants of the early Swedish settlers and many of the present parishioners have also proved their interest and loyalty by bequests and various memorials. The late Provost of the University of Pennsylvania, Charles J. Stillé, a lineal descendant of John Stillé, Swedish colonist, bequeathed a part of his estate, representing a value of about fifty thousand dollars, to the Gloria Dei corporation on the following condition: "If said church building, from any cause be so injured or destroyed that in rebuilding or repairing the same, the present exterior brick walls shall cease to be a part of said building, the said church corporation shall thenceforth cease to have any claim whatever upon the income of said trust fund." The total value of ground rents, general endowment and specific bequests amounts, therefore, to about \$215,000.

In response to an inquiry about the policy of the present administration, the Rector, Rev. Percy R. Stockman, has kindly submitted

the following statement:

"It should be of special interest to those who have the history of the Swedish Colony on the Delaware at heart and particularly those who are descendants of the pioneers of the Swedish settlements, to know that Gloria Dei (Old Swedes') Church in Philadelphia, is working out a new endowment plan. This involves the endowing of sittings at \$200 each in the name of anyone connected with the history of the Parish whom the donor may designate. The purpose of this project is to insure the preservation of the memories of the past by making the Church a sacred storehouse of valued memorials; and at the same time to add thereby to the growing endowment fund of the Church. Those remembered in this way, with a statement of all items in the Church records referring to their connection with the Parish, will be further commemorated in a "Book of Memory" which will shortly be compiled. For a nominal subscription, this book will be presented to all making memorial gifts; and from time to time additions will be made, the volume to be bound according to a loose leaf system.

"This Church also has begun the accumulation of pictures, pamphlets, and



Two photographs by Sherril Schell "OLD SWEDE'S," PHILADELPHIA



THEY REST QUIETLY BY THE DELAWARE

other objects of interest of all kinds, relating to the history of the Parish and those prominent in it, and also contemporaneous matters of Civic and National interest. It would welcome any gifts of such a nature which could be included in its growing museum, and it offers to act as a depository of any heirlooms and possessions which would receive added significance and security by becoming a part of a recognized historical collection.

"It is the intention of the present Rector, Wardens and Vestrymen of Gloria Dei Church that their unique responsibility to make this ancient edifice a monument of liv-

ing memories shall be increasingly realized.

The first step towards securing an endowment fund for The Holy Trinity (Old Swedes' Church), Wilmington, was taken by Dr. Horace Burr in 1889. The efforts during the following twenty-seven years resulted in a fund amounting to \$12,049. As the income from this sum was entirely inadequate for the maintenance of the building and the proper care of the Churchyard, the Rev. Frederick M. Kirkus, present Rector of the parish, started, in November, 1915, to raise the amount of \$50,000, to be added to the "Permanent Fund." He succeeded in raising \$50,523.35. This undertaking was completed as planned, and the whole sum presented as an offering on Trinity Sunday, 1916, the 217th anniversary of the consecration of Old Swedes' Church.

In presenting the offering, Mr. Kirkus distinctly stated that the income from this fund should be used by the Vestry "towards defraying the cost of maintaining religious services in this Holy Trinity (Old Swedes') Church, and the good work incident thereto, and for no other purpose whatsoever." The Bishop of Delaware, as chairman of the Trustees of the diocese, accepted the certificate presented, and in his sermon on this occasion the Bishop made the following statement: "We have an additional responsibility of being loyal to the tradition of the Swedish Lutheran Church from which our Church received 'Old Swedes' as a bequest. It is easy to discharge that responsibility, since the principles of the two churches are so nearly identical. . . In carrying out our work here, we are in effect perpetuating principles of that Church which built these memorable walls."

The total of the endowment fund for the Wilmington Church amounts at this time to \$80,085. Thus it is clear that these two churches, although now the property not of Lutheran but of Episcopal dioceses, are to be maintained in perpetuity in the spirit of their Swedish traditions. This fact ought to reassure many lovers of Swedish history, who have not visited the Churches, but have been anxious lest they be allowed to fall into decay. For the better preservation of their old architecture and decoration we have no doubt that not only gifts of money will be acceptable but old Swedish sacramental vessels, memorial windows, and the like.



CARL HENRY ANDREW BJERREGAARD

# Art and the Inner Life

By Stella E. Asling-Riis

A Sketch of the Work of Carl H. A. Bjerregaard

At a recent exhibition of his works in New York Mr. Bjerregaard stated in explanation of his unusual art: "I painted the pictures to express myself." To develop personality and to bring it into relation with the Universal is Mr. Bjerregaard's aim. In his book, The Great Mother, he writes: "I may say that the Inner-Life is merely

the spiritual side of Beauty-Life, which is the real life. If it should be desirable to use the terms Mysticism and Art, rather than Inner-Life and Beauty, then there is no objection and the case stands as before. By Mysticism I understand a life directed towards the transcendental; a life not only free from illusions, but a life which has made its devotees living channels of themselves and filled them with the Universal. And I speak of Art as heaven-born and not as an industry, and about artists as banner bearers of the ideal and not as tradesmen."

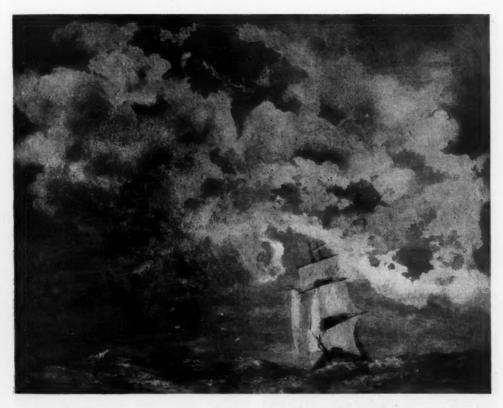
Carl Henry Andrew Bjerregaard was born in Denmark—I am sure he must have lived near the heaths of Jutland, he has depicted them so vividly. His painting, Burning Heath at Night, etches itself in one's memory, it is so luminous and so full of motion. In 1863 he graduated from the University of Copenhagen. For two years thereafter he was Professor of Botany at Fredericia College, but resigned to join the Danish Legation to the Court of Russia. In 1873 he sailed for America, and in 1879 became Librarian at Astor Library, now the great central establishment of the New York Public Library. He has published a number of books, among them, Mysticism and Nature Worship, A Sufi Interpretation of Omar Khayyam and Fitzgerald, The Inner-Life and the Tao-Teh-King. He was recently decorated, by King Christian, Knight of Dannebrog.

Mr. Bjerregaard believes that the majority of us cultivate about one-tenth of our capabilities. To prove this, at the age of seventy-one he began to use the brush to express his ideas instead of the pen. Critics may find fault with his technique; yet he has caught something which no school could teach him—the beauty of Nature, the beauty of everything which breathes or is impregnated with life. He has learned from his own inner consciousness to make vital the mystery of night, the mystery of still waters, the quivering of branches, the motion of



A PAINTING CONCEIVED IN A DREAM, WHICH SEEMS LIKE A MYSTICAL SYMPHONY OF SOME ASIATIC CHAOS IN XANADU WHERE KUBLA KHAN . . .

clouds. No Art School taught him how Nature vibrates, how the glowworm lights his lamp, and how we become luminous by our own intensity. "Life is a light," he writes, "and if the colorist wishes to portray it, he or she must learn how Nature vibrates or throws off her potencies. . . In the degree in which we have physical and spiritual life our personality burns like a flame and can easily be seen and estimated. . . A portrait must be painted by means of that light; a landscape has no eloquence unless it prints itself in that way upon our eye."



"THE SPANISH GALLEON" IS AN EXAMPLE OF THE RAPID TREATMENT OF CLOUDS

There is no doubt that this venerable artist has the image-making power in a great degree. Of that power he has himself written: "The image-making power is a great laboratory and necromancer. It transmutes itself everlastingly but it always aims at giving life to dead forms. . . Out of the simplest material it weaves the costliest garments and fashions the vessels of our treasures." So perhaps just here, we have the secret of why a man who had passed three score years and ten dared to begin and has made a success of painting.

# Explorers and Travellers

Captain Gotfred Hansen, the Danish Explorer, head of an auxiliary expedition sent out by the Norwegian Storting, has planted depots of food and arms in northern Greenland and Grant land to serve Amundsen and his party should they chance that way on their return home across the Pole. A veil of mystery surrounds the past two years of Amundsen's expedition. Only four of the original ten members are now on board the "Maud." Two who left the party with important reports and collections, have not yet been heard from. A third member, who set out from the second Siberian winter quarters, and the three who left the expedition at Nome last summer have reached Christiania under oath of secrecy. Stuffed animals and pressed plants have also come through to Christiania, but one set of records was stolen on the dock and subsequently found to have been destroyed.



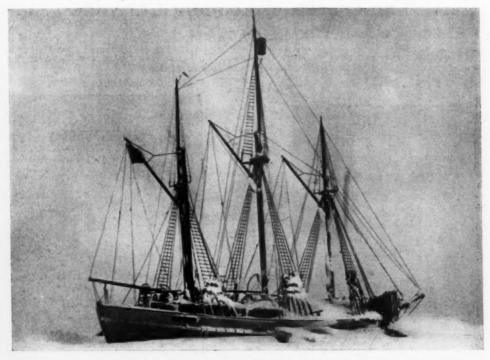


CARL LUMHOLTZ, VETERAN NORWEGIAN EXPLORER, WHOSE TRAILS AMONG THE HEAD HUNTERS OF BORNEO WERE RECENTLY PUBLISHED IS NOW LECTURING IN PREPARATION FOR AN EXPEDITION TO NEW GUINEA.



H. H. FAY, THE NEW CONSUL-GENERAL OF NORWAY IN NEW YORK HAS MADE A RECORD AS AN OFFICIAL TRAVELLER OF ABOUT TWICE THE DISTANCE AROUND THE EARTH. HIS LAST POST WAS CALCUTTA.

# Amundsen-Somewhere in the Arctic



Somewhere in the Polar Ice, Schooner "Maud." Crew: Five Souls—Amundsen, Wisting, Sverdrup, Olonkin, and the Eskimo Woman, Mary. Whom Amundsen Describes as "Clean, a Good Housekeeper, and a Remarkable Seamstress." Possibly also a Siberian Family Joined Them Later



Wide World Photos

CAPTAIN AMUNDSEN, ACCOMPANIED BY MISS HELEN LOMEN, ACTING HOSTESS, AND THEIR GUESTS GOING ABOARD THE "MAUD" AT NOME, WHERE CAPTAIN AMUNDSEN HELD HIS FAREWELL RECEPTION BEFORE HIS SECOND DEPARTURE FOR THE NORTH POLE, AUGUST 8, 1920

# The Diaries of Leonora Christine

By BERING LIISBERG

Leonora Christine, daughter of King Christian IV, was imprisoned in the Blue Tower of Copenhagen from 1663 to 1685.



Portrait in Frederiksborg Castle CORFITS ULFELD



Portrait in Frederiksborg Castle LEONORA CHRISTINE

"Life, after all, is the most beautiful fairy tale," says Hans Christian Andersen in one of his stories. Who is there to deny this is so? In wealth of expression, in sublime earnestness and power, in majesty, no fiction can equal reality; no more so than the sunset of a painting can ever compare with the splendor of nature. not remember the gripping portrayal of the unfortunate. Dr. Manette, in Charles Dickens' Tale of Two Cities. Wrongfully imprisoned in the Bastille for eighteen years, he is not released until the downtrodden populace of Paris rises against the tyranny personified by

this forbidden prison soon to be razed to the ground.

Copenhagen was not Paris, and the Blue Tower, the massive prison of the old Copenhagen Castle, was not the Bastille. But injustice, hatred, and wickedness were abroad in the land, then as later. A hundred years before the Dr. Manette of fiction was imprisoned in the Bastille, Leonora Christine, the favorite daughter of Christian IV, was locked up in the Blue Tower, without trial; innocently accused of having a hand in the traitorous plans of her insane husband, but in reality the victim of a jealous and revengeful queen's furious hatred. And her incarceration lasted not eighteen but twentytwo years, and she was kept in close proximity to the very hall where

her marriage to Count Corfits Ulfeld, the greatest man in the country, had been solemnized with royal pomp and splendor.

And once again it is proven that life is the most beautiful fairy tale, reaching deeper, rising higher, more ennobling than any fiction. And this is so because life is the work of God and man the creator of his own fancies. For Dr. Manette of the story leaves the Bastille a wreck, broken in body and soul. But the Leonora Christine of reality, the royal daughter, highly cultured as she is, but compelled to live in daily contact with the lowest creatures in human forms, in spite of all this leaves the prison the personification of dignified womanhood, with head erect as befits a lady of her high rank. Her twenty-two years' imprisonment in an ill-smelling room; her daily lack of fresh air; the need of exercise and the long period when she was without any occupation whatever did not make Leonora Christine forget that she was the daughter of Christian IV, and when she finally learned that she was free to go she demanded a carriage that she might leave in state, as befitting a person of her rank.

From her father, Leonora Christine inherited the desire and ability to write. Nearly 4,000 letters and diaries in Christian IV's handwriting still exist. Besides her "Diary of Lamentation" (Jammersmindet) the book which is to be discussed more particularly in the present instance, she left an autobiography, written in French; a description of her imprisonment in Hammershus, Bornholm, which unfortunately has been lost; a larger work about Heroines, and a play in Danish verse, which also must be considered out of existence. Leonora Christine, furthermore, translated a number of books from the Spanish and French, and composed several psalms and spiritual

songs.

The original manuscript of Leonora Christine's account of her imprisonment in the Blue Tower, from August 8, 1663, to May 19, 1685, did not come to light until 1868, when it was discovered in Vienna, in the possession of an Austrian nobleman who was one of her descendants. It was published in 1869 by S. Birket-Smith under the name she herself had given her work, "The Diary of Lamentation of the Imprisoned Countess, Leonora Christine," (Den fangne Grevinde Leonora Christines Jammersminde). In 1871 it was published in German, and in English in 1872. After the last descendants in Austria had died, the manuscript was returned to Denmark the past summer, and is now to be found in National Historiske Museum (Museum of National History) in Frederiksborg.

At an early age Leonora Christine distinguished herself by her desire for knowledge and readiness to learn. A contemporary says of her in her sixteenth year that she possessed a creative Ingenium



Painting by Karel van Mander

CHRISTIAN IV

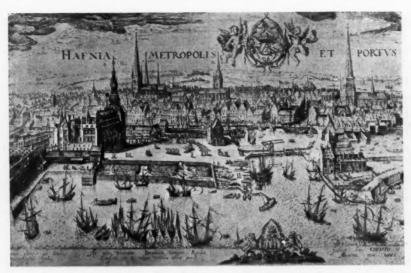
and Judicium. In addition to these mental gifts she possessed beauty of face and figure and graceful appearance.

It was not easy in those days for a woman from the far distant, and in French estimate. little cultured northland, to meet the exactions of the highly critical and ultra-refined French court. But when Leonora Christine visited Paris in 1647 she captivated everybody by her natural dignity and gracious, tactful bearing. But the favorite daughter of Christian IV was even more conspicuous by her character than by her beauty and intelligence. In her many adventurous experiences of travel, as related so picturesquely in her French autobiography, there are instances upon instances of her presence of mind, her endurance, her

fearlessness, together with a real sense of humor. But in her "Diary of Lamentation", Leonora Christine makes her strongest appeal to those who wish to understand her.

In its way this book is one of the most important in Danish literature. In a style clear and decidedly personal, with a wealth of depiction concerning the middle of the seventeenth century, the characters stand out so dramatically before us that we seem to see them and hear them speak. At the same time we learn to know Leonora Christine as God-fearing and strong in faith; possessed of great will-power, courage, culture, and a knowledge of mankind. Her ability to get along with the people of the prison, so far beneath her, is most remarkable. Her quiet dignity, her calmness in misfortune, inspire respect and makes them like her. Yes, this high-born lady, brought up in royal splendor, has the faculty to place herself in the position of these people, to understand their mode of thinking, to judge their actions by what lies behind. And, as a heritage from her royal father, she knows how, with what seems almost a merry twinkle in the eye, to present them in their unconscious comicality.

First and foremost, however, it is the faithfulness of Leonora



COPENHAGEN IN 1611. LEONORA CHRISTINE WAS CONFINED IN A DUNGEON BELOW THE BLUE TOWER (OF COPENHAGEN CASTLE ON THE LEFT)

Christine that is here revealed. Loyalty is her most conspicuous characteristic. Already as a little girl she would rather suffer punishment, punishment that bordered on ill-treatment, than to break her given word and promise. And it was her loyalty to the man whom she had promised to share her life with, for good and evil, that became the determinating factor in her existence. It was this loyalty that carried her from one misfortune to another and finally to the prison cell in the Blue Tower. Let the whole world call him traitor, let everyone desert him, she, the wife and comrade of Corfits Ulfeld, would protect him and defend him so long as life stirred within her.

The words that she embroidered on the altar cloth for Maribo Church, after she was set at liberty, may easily stand as a motto for her life work:

No effort is too great where conjugal affection abides, Faithfulness is a virtue that none need blush for.

This is not a mere expression, but shows what Leonora Christine felt deep down in her heart. Again and again occurs evidence of self-sacrifice. For instance, when in her younger days she gladly gave up her jewels to help her husband out of some financial difficulties; when in Malmö, where sick and broken in spirit, Ulfeld was charged with high treason by the Swedish King and his helpmate, with wonderful eloquence and aptness, she appeared and pleaded his case; or when, during his exile, Leonora Christine was his right hand and constant protector, taking refuge with him in Klippeborgen, on Hammeren and finally, when against her own wishes, but because of his insistent

pleading, she went to England in order to ask Charles II for the return of a sum of money that Ulfeld had loaned the former. It was a debt that Charles II got rid of in a manner wholly worthy of him; namely by delivering up Leonora Christine to King Frederik III and the Danish Government. She was imprisoned on suspicion of having known the treasonable plans of her irresponsible and mentally unbal-

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anced husband, and even of having taken part in them.

That the period of imprisonment was so long and her incarceration so inhuman was due entirely to the implacable hatred of the queen. But the realization that she was suffering because of her love and her faithfulness to her husband, and her inborn dignity kept her up. And then her God-fearing disposition! Leonora Christine's "Dairy of Lamentation" will stand forever as an uplifting testimony to the value of religion to those who are sorrowful and alone. After many inner searchings, when, like Job, she took issue with God and asked what she had done to deserve all this suffering, peace at last possessed her soul. During the day time she was watchful to keep back the tears that the guards might not have occasion to inform the queen and give the latter pleasure in showing Leonora Christine on the point of despair. But when night set in she would give her feelings free rein, wetting her pillows with her crying and finding neither rest nor sleep on her miserable bed. Or else she sat motionless and stared at the burning candle that the rats were gnawing away. But at last sleep would come, and when she awoke in the morning, it was as she herself relates, "with these words in my mouth: 'My child, do not despair, when God punishes you. the Lord chastises those he loves.' Many consoling sentences from the scriptures came to my mind and I realized in my distress how much good it does when one has learned psalms and the Bible language in one's youth. To me, my children, this has been my greatest comfort in all my misery."

Truly, Leonora Christine could consider herself fortunate in possessing so good a memory touching her younger days. For neither a Bible nor any other book was permitted her as a means to pass the time away. This idleness, that the queen forced upon her powerless enemy, undoubtedly must have been a heavier burden to bear than the malice and annoyances of her keepers, accustomed as she had always been to busy herself, especially with hand embroidery, in which

she was very proficient.

"My cross was the heavier to bear at first," she writes, "because I was allowed neither knife, scissors, thread nor anything else with which to shorten the time. At last, when my mind became more quiet, I thought of something to do. And as I had found a needle on the floor, I unravelled the ribbons of my night gown, broad, red

taffeta ribbons. With this silk I sewed various flowers on a piece of cloth, using very fine stitches. When I was through with this I pulled threads out of my sheets, twisted these together and sewed with them. When I was finished with this, the woman (her keeper) asked one day: 'What will you do now?' 'O,' I answered. 'I shall get something to do,

even if the raven must bring it to me."

With her inexhaustible ingenuity Leonora Christine made use of everything she could get hold of. A broken wooden spoon was turned into some kind of needle. A piece of glass served for a knife. With the use of a pin and a flat piece of wood she made some sort of weaving comb. A lump of clay was shaped into cup and bowl. Mixing soot with the brew that was given her to drink, this furnished her with ink, and she made her notes on pieces of paper left lying around. Gradually she would find among her keepers someone who would have compassion on her and would supply her with yarn, needles, and other trifles. And after the queen died, she was given a sum of money with which to purchase what she might have use for, and

she was also removed to a better cell in the prison.

A strange feeling takes possession when one holds the "Diary of Lamentation" in hand and turns over the yellow pages on which Leonora Christine recorded her thoughts and emotions. Even the primitive binding, that is of her own making, bears witness to the book as a product of the prison. Of pasteboard she had none to make a cover. She began to write down her impressions in July, 1674, immediately after she had finished the French autobiography. The firm and legible handwriting shows that she can look back on the first eleven years of her prison life with some degree of calmness. Some of the later pages seem to indicate that they are contemporary with events that have stirred her mind. For Leonora Christine was a woman of strong "God knows," she says, "that frequently I have made emotions. myself both deaf and blind so as not to become angry or irritated" at the daily humiliations she endured. Usually she succeeded in controlling herself, and she thanks God for this and everything else.

"God has done wonders for me," she writes, "for it is more than one can believe that I could keep my reason, my temper and my good sense during all the misfortune that came over me. And I greatly wonder that my limbs have not become bent and contracted from all that lying down and sitting, that my eyes are not dulled, yes, that I am not blinded from crying, from soot and smoke; that I am not asthmatic from the constant candle smoke and choking, of bad

smells and poor air. God's alone is the glory."

The children of Leonora Christine long kept the manuscript of the "Diary of Lamentation" a secret and hidden, for fear, as they said, lest it should fall in the hands of her enemies and make them

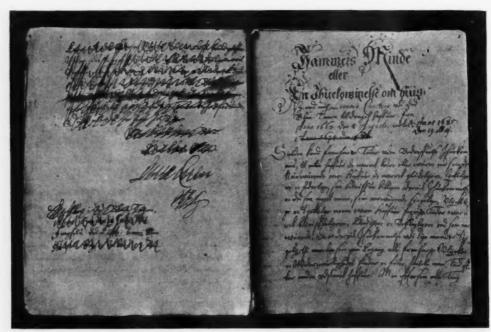
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FIRST AND LAST PAGES OF THE INTRODUCTION TO LEONORA CHRISTINE'S Jammersmindet

gloat over it. But fate would have it so that this book, written in sorrow and want, has become a joy and uplift for thousands of Leo-

nora Christine's countrymen.

Although it does not belong to the "Diary of Lamentation," but to the imprisonment at Hammershus, a single incident that gives a splendid illustration of this grand woman ought to be recorded here. The time is December, 1661. Lieutenant Colonel Ditlev Lütken arrives at Hammershus on an errand for the king to treat with Ulfeld regarding the liberation of himself and his wife. The two prisoners are not allowed to share the burden of inearceration together, but are locked each within a cell high up in the Mantel Tower. Ulfeld shrinks from signing the hard conditions imposed, giving up almost all his properties, that the king exacts to give them their freedom. He cannot make up his mind and asks to be allowed to consult with his clever wife.

This permission is granted him if he will speak to her through the window, for they cannot meet together. Ulfeld goes to the open window, calls his wife and asks her in French what she advises, whether they should purchase for themselves one more respite and prolong their miserable existence, or should choose to remain where they are until death shall set them free.

Strong and clear comes the answer from his wife and consoler, in

the classic language of the ancients whose writings she knows so well and has constantly at hand: "Rebus in adversis facile est contemnere mortem, fortius ille facit, qui miser esse potest, accidit in puncto, quod non speratur in annis." (Easy enough it is in adversity to consider death a gain. Better does he, however, who bears misfortune as a man. In a moment may happen that which may not be hoped for in years to come.)

For no more than two years after the conversation stated did Leonora Christine enjoy this dearly bought liberty. During this time her unhappy and insane husband kept occupying himself with the crazy plans that drove him into exile and brought his faithful wife

her twenty-two years' imprisonment in the Blue Tower.

#### Editor's Note:

After twenty-two years' imprisonment Leonora Christina was pardoned and left the Blue Tower May 19, 1685. After regaining her freedom she lived for a short time in Husum near Copenhagen; later at the direction of King Christian V, who also granted her a considerable yearly pension, she went to live at Maribo Cloister, where she remained until her death March 16, 1698.

Her husband, Korfits Ulfeld, born July 10, 1606, married Leonora Christina in 1636; during the reign of Christian IV he occupied many high positions and was governor of Copenhagen and royal steward. He retained his influence during the reign of Frederick III, but incurred the enmity of the queen. Accused of plotting against his country, after many vicissitudes he died a fugitive near Basel, February 20, 1664.

Her Jammersminde, written for the most part in prison but concluded and revised in Maribo Cloister, is a valuable contribution to the cultural history of the period and significant in the light it throws on the personality of the author, while from a literary standpoint it is the most important Danish work in prose of the seventeenth century.



# Scandinavia in French Literature\*

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By Adolph Burnett Benson

THE French conception of Scandinavia and its people has always been a trifle hazy. To be sure, French critics, during the last few decades, have paid some attention to the North, but the current opinion among Frenchmen to-day, deep in their hearts, is essentially the same as that of travelers of three hundred years ago—that the Northerner is a barbarian. Even the more modern and illumined journalists seem to hold the same view, and their knowledge of Scandinavian geography and nationalities leaves much to be desired. Bergen is often localized in Denmark; Björnson becomes a Danish poet, and the late critic Jules Le Maître had a hard time to determine whether Strindberg was Danish, German, or

something else.

Nevertheless, in the literary relations between the Scandinavian countries and France, the influence is not all in one direction. North does play a rôle in French literature, however superficial it may be, extending from the seventeenth century down to the present time. Most of the French writers who turned their attention to Scandinavia in any way were of minor importance, but in the list of names we find also Rabelais, Mallet, Voltaire, Scudéri, Descartes, Saint Pierre, Mme. de Staël, Mérimée, and Victor Hugo. As early as 1823, a whole book is devoted to the Swedish theatre with translations from three Swedish dramatists. Leconte de Lisle seeks with some success to reproduce Norse sagas in Alexandrines; George Sand localizes a story in a Swedish castle, and Balzac makes Swedenborg the hero of a novel. In the interim, lectures are given on Old Norse at the Sorbonne; one French woman dedicates a volume of poems to the Swedish botanist Linnæus, and the entire Finnish epic Kalevala is translated in 1867. During the nineteenth century, a few translations are made also of Geijer, Tegnér, Nicander, Andersen, Baggesen, and Oehlenschläger, and, finally, Ibsen is studied and discussed, though without any far-reaching influence on the French drama.

Before the Thirty Years' War, Scandinavia, as distinct territory, was practically unknown in France. Any information about the North was gathered from subjective descriptions in Latin, and many of these would baffle the most imaginative and superstitious reader. Not until 1532 is it generally known that the Scandinavian peninsula runs north and south, and not until 1539 is Greenland separated from Lapland on the maps. The interest in Northern islands is one of mere mystery and curiosity. They are countries full of fantastic creations; of monsters, amazons, cannibals, and demons. The Lapps are

<sup>\*</sup>Gunnar Castrèn: Norden i den franska litteraturen. Helsingfors, 1910.

known because of their ability to control the wind by magic; the iron and copper mines are known because the devil helps in the mining; and Hecla on Iceland has won an awe-inspiring fame since it forms an entrance into the lower regions, whence issues constantly the groaning of the damned. Beyond Trondhjem, Iceland, and Green-

land was the great, awful, vacuous unknown.

The translations of Latin sources into French let loose a mass of fanciful tales about Scandinavia, and the resultant conception of the North was not modified by any French traveler. In the first place, before about 1650, no Frenchman went North unless he had to. Those who did were either persecuted Huguenots or Government The former, most likely, did not return to France, and the latter would hardly find anything delectable at a Northern court about which they might make a favorable report. In fact, both in Sweden and Denmark, the diaries and correspondence of the French envoyés are, for the most part, records of personal troubles, prejudices, and disappointments. The climate is unbearable, the food unpalatable, the traveling difficult, and the women unsociable. No attempt is made to study the common people, and the Scandinavian capitals are regarded as places of exile from which no good can come, though many are proud of having been there. The ministers to Copenhagen complain that their hospitality is taxed too much, that the Danes are intemperate, and that the Danish tongue reminds them of a person about to weep.

Frenchmen have taken a special interest in the historical characters of Sweden. The first of these is Gustavus Vasa. John Calvin dedicates a work to him, and afterwards this king appears several times in French literature; in history, in the novel, and in the drama, though no pretention is made to historical accuracy. Sometimes Gustavus is a patriot, sometimes a miner, and often a conventional hero of love and adventure who would feel perfectly at home in a French salon. In one novel (1696) an attempt is made to reproduce, as a suitable environment, the primitive and "awful" solitude of the Dalecarlian forests, and a semblance of local color may be found in the name of Gustavus's companion, "Seigneur" Peterson.

The Thirty Years' War brought about a change in attitude toward the Scandinavian countries and especially toward Sweden. French diplomatic relations with Sweden helped to stimulate a romantic interest in the land, although the interest is mostly confined to the ruling celebrities of the capital. Gustavus Adolphus is eulogized in France as well as elsewhere. He becomes the frequent topic of conversation in the literary salons of Paris, the object of a Platonic admiration by the favorite daughter of Mme. de Rambouillet, and at his death a number of poets celebrate his memory in both French and Latin.

It was left for his daughter Christina, the well-known patroness of foreign letters, to create an intensive interest in the Swedish court. Scores of Frenchmen flocked to Stockholm to court the favor of the Swedish queen, and in the course of time innumerable glorifications of her appeared in both poetry and prose. Those unable to see her personally corresponded with her and sent her their favors. The correspondent Balzac fails to receive the attention he had expected and feels hurt; but Menage gets a gold chain, and the result is an enthusiastic ecloque to the "divine and incomparable queen." In this ecloque France is ravaged by war, but in the North all disagreeable things such as wind and snow have disappeared; a heavenly nymph has come forth and infused a new life into trees and flowers. This heavenly nymph is Christina.

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Most of Christina's literary admirers were of mediocre talent, but there were notable exceptions, such as the philosopher Descartes, and George and Mlle. de Scudéri. George de Scudéri wrote a gigantic epic, Alaric, in which a hermit and a sibyl praise the Northern queen. Here an attempt is made to give a Scandinavian setting, but the author had never been in Sweden, and so he borrows from the grotesque tales of a predecessor, supplies a number of barbaric names, and the Northern warriors pass in review, clad in strange and costly garments. One Lapp appears in genuine ermine; another in a modest bearskin. Some mention is made of the pine and the oak, but the whole picture gives an impression of extreme wildness

and—the lost souls are still groaning in Iceland's volcano.

During the latter part of the seventeenth century, several travelogues appear on Scandinavia by French writers who had actually visited the countries described, but even these travelogues present a curious mixture of truth, fiction, and wholesale plagiarism. is made of the long, dark nights of the Northern winter, the melancholy of the landscape, the mountains and the mines, and of the aristocratic nobility. Then we have the following revelations: the Icelanders have demons who foretell seasons of favorable fishing; the reindeer are possessed of an almost supernatural intelligence; and in the home of every Lapp there is a big, black cat of doubtful mission and origin. De la Martiniere himself (who had been in Norway and published a work about it in 1671), for ten kroner and a little tobacco, buys wind of a magician in Norway to insure favorable sailing along the coast. He receives a string with three knots tied in it. Thanks to these knots, he finally reaches Varanger; but upon untying the last knot a terrible storm comes up, and the author believes this a punishment from God for having consulted the magician.

The Scandinavian element in the French novel of the sixteenth and the seventeenth century offers something of interest. Pentagruel in Rabelais's noted masterpiece has teeth as large as the

mountains of Denmark, a comparison which would hardly frighten a Dane, but which must have been very effective to a French reader, and Panurge in the same work at one time utters a few words in a mysterious tongue which turns out to be—Danish. Gouberville localizes part of a novel of adventure in Denmark. Here the French king tries to convince his daughter Olimpia that the Danish prince Phelismond is not a barbarian, that Denmark is far more flourishing than England, and by no means so wild as the countries of the New World. In Le Noble's Ildegerte, Queen of Norway (1694) treachery and faithlessness are punished by an army of twenty thousand Norse amazons. The Swedish king Rainfroy sends messengers to Ildegerte asking for her hand, but she answers by cutting off the ears and noses of the messengers.

French interest in modern Swedish history is typified in Voltaire's epoch-making *History of Charles XII* (1731), the first sober attempt to reproduce Scandinavian history correctly. As a bit of literature, it is probably unexcelled in its kind. It is prefaced by a brief but strong account of the North, and although Voltaire had never been in Sweden, he succeeds in giving a better picture of it than had ever been given before. He emphasizes the purity and clearness of the atmosphere; the strong and well-formed Swedes live a long time, says Voltaire, when they do not undermine their health by

intemperance.

It is interesting to note also, in this connection, that in 1748, only a few years after the *History of Charles XII* had appeared, the historian Montesquieu makes the Scandinavian North the cradle of

Europe's political freedom.

About 1750 French scholars commenced to take an interest in Danish history. The most important of these was Paul Henri Mallet, born in Geneva, who began to lecture in Copenhagen in October, 1752. He traveled extensively in the Northern countries, learned the Scandinavian languages, and wrote a history of Denmark which was based on the best sources available. His Introduction (1755) and Supplement (1756) to this work, dealing with Danish antiquity, acquired a European reputation and served to introduce Norse

mythology into foreign letters.

But a sympathetic attitude toward Scandinavian history did not imply any enthusiasm for the Northern belles-lettres. Bouhour (1671) raises the question whether beaux esprits are possible in the North, since it seems incompatible with rough temperaments and massive bodies. Abbé Dubos (1719) is certain that fine arts have never penetrated beyond the 52° North latitude (just south of Berlin), although Saint-Evremond, who had been in England, thinks there may be different kinds of culture. La Beaumelle, who had been disappointed in Denmark (1750), does not believe the Danish

language capable of expressing the tragic or sublime. He believes the French had monopolized this effect and, although there might be geniuses in Denmark, they had no education to develop their talents. Holberg's Nils Klim might be compared to certain German works, but certainly not to anything in French or English. One periodical in 1749 claims to give the conviction of every Frenchman: that if there are any poets in Holland, Germany, Flanders, and the North,

they are certainly not worth reading.

In the meantime a number of stories, translated or adapted from English originals, serve to fix the traditional misconceptions of Lapland and Greenland. The setting is always the same: an abundance of snow and ice, with a huge zoölogical retinue of bats, owls, bears, reindeer, and buffaloes. There is no definite local color, and one sample of these French adaptations will illustrate their character. The brave Sibersik has won great renown by diving under the ice after seals. The reward from his sweetheart is a rare delicacy—a

glass of whale-oil.

The first Frenchman to depict the moods and scenery of a Northern landscape was Bernardin de Saint Pierre, the nature enthusiast, author of Paul and Virginia, and friend of Rousseau. He traveled in Russia and Finland in 1763-64, and through him Finland makes its début into French literature. At first Saint Pierre is not so well impressed with the North, but gradually he grows enthusiastic and begins to study the forests, cliffs, lakes, and villages. He admires the white birch, the grass, and the moss with its variations of color, while the pine-trees in their spring attire are compared to huge, gloomy pyramids hung with "lampettes." He lauds the fragrance of the Northern plants; he is aware of a strange rustling in the evergreens; and instead of the dwarf-like shrubs, stunted by frigid temperature, which he had expected, he finds the largest trees he had ever seen, with branches upon which a squirrel might easily travel over a large part of Russia without touching the ground. At times the artist's picture assumes a romantic tinge: let the observer but disturb the stillness of a winter scene and he will find immediately that all nature is alive; that it is populated with harpies, centaurs, and monsters; yes, that even Thor with his hammer appears.

About the time of the French Revolution there is a favorable change of attitude toward the people of Scandinavia. Before they had been considered a strange race indeed, very different from the polite Frenchmen. They were a wild, uncouth people, occasionally producing, to be sure, a hero extraordinaire like Charles XII, but even the much eulogized Christina had misbehaved when in Paris, so what could you expect from the common folk! Now, however, with more intimate official relations and a more frequent interchange of observing visitors, the element of strangeness disappears some-

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what, and when Christian VII and Gustavus III visit Paris they are received as men of culture à la Français.

But no sooner had Scandinavia been presented in a truer light, than a new influence produced a serious setback; the influence of MacPherson's Celtic bard Ossian. Mallet had confused Celtic and Germanic antiquities, and Saint Pierre, and, later, Mme. de Staël, accepted his views. Consequently, as soon as Ossian's popular songs appeared in France (1777), the whole sentimental atmosphere of Druid ceremonies and human sacrifices was transferred to the Scandinavians. The land of heroes, of clear skies, and cold winters becomes the seat of melancholy, darkness, and an impenetrable mist, where sombre inhabitants like nothing better than to dance around an oak-tree all night, listening to awful echoes and singing awe-inspiring hymns. Wild animals abound in terrifying numbers, and all the warriors are ferocious to the extreme. Parny's hero Isnel hurls a huge rock in the face of his adversary, and another Scandinavian brings his sweetheart daily the head of a wild boar and the bloody skin of a deer. Here is a typical extract from the preface to a poem by Nodier, entitled "Funeral Dirge at the Tomb of a Scandinavian Chief": "The sun rises. The funeral procession stops, preceded by an imposing and wild music. Pine torches burn in the four corners of a black altar, upon which may yet be seen the vapor of the blood of the sacrificed enemies. In the distance is heard the joyful cries of the priests and the screaming of the victims." Truly, the Ossianic clouds were dark and dense and enveloped the Scandinavian North so completely that they have never been entirely dissipated.

That the strange names, places, traditions, customs, and industries of nebulous Scandinavia should furnish a fascinating background for the melodrama and the romantic novel might be taken for granted. Nothing would be disputed and probably everything duly accredited. Castrèn mentions eleven melodramas with Norse motifs, and in these the most popular background is furnished by the mining industry. Eugène Hugo, brother of Victor Hugo, describes in a novel a terrible duel between an Anglo-Saxon and a Dane. The duel takes place upon the trunk of a tree over a yawning precipice, into which both fall, and where they are finally swallowed up by a

gigantic bear.

To Victor Hugo, also, the leading French Romanticist, the North became an ideal place for localizing the Storm-and-Stress productions of a radical program. Nothing could be too startling, and at the age of fifteen Hugo had already given us, in a fragmentary tragedy, a king of Scandinavia. Two years later Hugo fell desperately in love, but could not marry for financial reasons. He threw himself into his work with tremendous fury, and the result was, in 1823,

Hans of Iceland, "one of the most sanguinary novels that ever saw the light." This potpourri of grim humor, ridiculous horrors, and impossible situations represents the wild attempt of a youngster to kindle the imagination of blase minds. In this Hugo was successful. Hans of Iceland is a demon-monster in human form, the incarnation of everything horrible. He has been educated by a bishop, but one night he sets fire to his benefactor's house and escapes to Norway on the trunk of a tree. Here he becomes the terror of the land. Murder is his daily pastime and hatred and revenge his only feelings toward humanity. He goes dressed in the skins of wild animals, and his only companion is a polar bear which follows him like a dog. His hands have claws instead of nails, his drinking-cup is the skull of his own son, and his favorite beverage is human blood, though, as a last resort, he will accept sea-water as a substitute.

The foregoing digest, based upon the investigations of the Finnish scholar Gunnar Castrèn of the University of Helsingfors, will give an idea of the French conception in Scandinavia. It does not represent the view of every Frenchman to-day, I trust, and, after all, it is only natural, perhaps, that the North should appear somewhat misty to other nations, especially to those of southern Europe. Scandinavian influence on literary France is not of momentous

import, but it is not without curious interest.

# Cradle Song

Translated from the Swedish of Erik Blomberg

By CHARLES WHARTON STORK

Day turns to night and night to day, Naught ever gives or takes away, All things deathward are gliding.

Seeds become fruits that melt as they lie, Flowers bud and blossom and die, All things deathward are gliding.

Life grows pale and fades to a gleam, All is but slumber, forgetfulness, dream, All things deathward are gliding.

# Current Events

#### U. S. A.

The United States Senate ratified the Colombian treaty, submitted to the Congress by President Harding, as a first step of great importance in the foreign policy of his administration. Colombia is to be paid \$25,000,000 in case the House of Representatives takes the identical position of the Senate where the vote stood 69 to 19. The presentation of a statue of General Simon Bolivar to the City of New York as the gift of Venezuela, which event was marked by important festivities, is one other link in the chain that is binding the United States closer to her South American neighbors. The Inter-Racial Council has taken a decided stand against any bill similar to the Dillingham measure limiting immigration to the United States for 15 months to three per cent of the number of each nationality in this country. President Wilson's veto of this measure had been strongly urged by the Council, which now gives various reasons why there should be adoption of no bill inconsistent with the policy of international cooperation and understanding. 

Capital and labor are still debating as to what should or should not be a proper scale of reduction in wages. In certain industries, cuts have been agreed to that are mutually satisfactory. In the building trade and among marine workers strained relations exist that deter industrial progress and are causing hesitancy on the part of business as a whole. 

Reports from Copenhagen persist that Christian X may visit this country the coming summer when he goes to Iceland and Greenland. However this may be, should King Christian come here he is assured a truly royal welcome, because Danish-Americans alone would know how to greet this democratic ruler who realizes that it is largely due to American intervention that North Slesvig is Danish once more. The passing of John Burroughs, at the advanced age of 84, was considered a national loss because of his great work in making his countrymen understand the beauties of outdoors. He set an example worthy of being followed. As writer, pioneer, explorer in nature study, John Burroughs will long be remembered in America and elsewhere. ¶On the authority of Postmaster General Will Hays the department will adopt a much more liberal policy in dealing with users of the mails than marked the occupancy of that office during the Burleson regime. This announcement has been received with great satisfaction by publishers who were greatly hampered under certain arbitrary rules that prevailed for-The Federal Trade Commission issued a statement declaring the United States Steel Corporation and its eleven subsidiaries have a price-fixing system that is in violation of the Clayton act.

#### Denmark

In the first half of March the chief matter of interest in Denmark was the new elections over the entire country for City and Parish Councils. These elections, which take place every fourth year, are becoming more and more partisan, and they were so in marked degree this time. Just as in the elections last summer, the Social Democrats made the greatest advance in Copenhagen and the large provincial cities, while the Liberals, now in power, won their chief success in the country and some of the small towns. The Radical Left, who ruled Denmark during the war, on the contrary, went backwards during these communal elections both in the city and country, although not quite so badly as in the election to the Folketing a year ago this spring, when this party lost about half of its votes and had to let the Zahle Ministry go. The Rigsdag was hard at work during the month of The Neergaard Ministry, with the consent of all parties, wishes the work of the Rigsdag to be arranged so that it need only to be assembled during the winter months and not, as in war time, most of the summer also. The Finance Law for the coming year (April 1, 1921-March 31, 1922) shows a comparatively handsome surplus, which the additional subventions proposed later will no doubt reduce; but in general during the debate satisfaction was expressed regarding the financial position of the State. In spite of strong opposition from the Social Democrats, there was voted to His Majesty the King Kr. 400,000 during the hard times as a necessary addition to his appanage of Kr. 1,000,000, which for all time is allowed the King. Otherwise, there was not much contest over the appropriations. In the middle of March there came from Kiel a report which created a painful impression both in Denmark and the northern brother nations. report maintained that in Kiel there had been formed a German-Swedish Society with the name "Schleswig-Holstein" with the object of fighting Danism in the border districts, and that a Swedish parson in Kiel, as well as the Swedish Vice Consul in that city, had allowed themselves to be elected as directors in this society against Denmark and Danism. The Swedish Minister of Foreign Affairs has given orders to investigate and report. The newspaper Stockholms Tidningen declared in advance that if the society in Kiel is "political so that Swedes in combination with the Germans demonstrate their sympathy for the German demands on Denmark, such a situation seems unnatural and distasteful to the great majority in Sweden." And with this explanation the Danes allowed the matter to rest for the Captain C. M. T. Cold and Niels Hoest have retired from the direction of the United Steamship Company and are succeeded by two younger captains of commerce, A. O. Andersen and Kay Reinhard.

#### Norway

At a national congress of the Norwegian Labor Party during Easter it was decided with an overwhelming majority to accept the resolutions of the Moscow congress of the Third International. This decision was expected, the moderates having left the party in the beginning of the year and formed a new antibolshevist socialist party. Five delegates from Haugesund who dared to vote against acceptance of the revolutionary doctrines were at once expelled from the Labor Party. The present editor of Socialdemokraten, Norway's leading bolshevist daily, Olay Scheflo, was elected Norwegian member of the executive committee of the Third International and will shortly leave for Moscow. He will be replaced in the editor's office of Socialdemokraten by Martin Tranmæl, who no doubt is the most talented of the Norwegian bolshevist leaders. The extreme radicalism of the Labor Party does not cause any great anxiety, everybody knowing that it will be absolutely impossible for the bolshevists to establish a dictatorship of the proletariat in Norway. The well educated and fiercely independent Norwegian peasant certainly would not tolerate any tyranny, and in spite of the industrial development of the last ten years the peasant class is still the most powerful section of the Norwegian community. 

Much more attention is paid by the Norwegian press to the critical development of the commercial treaty negotiations between Norway on the one side and Spain, Portugal, and France on the other. As a protest against the prohibition policy of Norway the Spanish government, without announcing their decision to the Norwegian authorities, increased the custom duties on Norwegian fish by fifty per cent, from March 20. Norway at once retaliated by raising the duties on Spanish goods to maximum rates. Spain is trying to force their strong wines on Norway, no wine containing more than twelve per cent alcohol being at present allowed. 

Should women preach? This question is being eagerly discussed in Norway at the present moment, the leading women organizations having submitted to the Storting a proposal enabling women to become ministers in the Lutheran state church of Norway. The Norwegians have been pioneers in the emancipation of women. Norway was the first country in Europe to give women the vote, and a few years later a bill was carried opening practically the whole civil service to women. Norwegian ladies may become university professors, members of parliament and government, mayors, judges and prefects. But the ministry of the church is still closed to them, and it is not very probable that the new attempt to break down the barriers in this respect will prove successful. In ecclesiastical matters the Norwegians are very conservative, and the orthodox church party will oppose the reform.

#### Sweden

During March and April the Riksdag continued its routine without any major questions being introduced. The new Premier, von Sydow. appeared for the first time in important questions when he answered an interpellation regarding the attitude of the Government on unemployment. During the ensuing debate he maintained that the State. at present, has no rich sources to squeeze money from. Industry during the past years had rendered great service by giving the workingmen higher wages and by paying one billion kronor of wartime taxes into the State. But now these good times were past; the high rate of exchange caused the land to be overflowed with the cheaper products of the neighboring countries, and the wages of the workingmen must go down before industry can again compete. At a party congress at Easter, arranged by the Left Social Democratic Party, the question of an unqualified endorsement of the so-called "Moskvateserna" came up, and after an embittered contest it was resolved to declare those members of the party who did not recognize the revolutionary principles adopted by the Communistic Internationale, as not belonging to the party. This resolution was adopted by 178 voices against 34, and in consequence many of the party's best known representatives in the Riksdag, Mayor Lindhangen, Editor Fabian Månsson, Editor Wennersten, and others, seceded and formed their own party group, retaining the old Left Socialist Party's program and constitution. The old party calls itself now Sweden's Communistic Party, and with it the country has no less than five political parties. ¶ At the election, a few days earlier, of fifty of Stockholm's hundred city council members, it was revealed, however, that all-in-all the united Left Socialist Party was exceedingly small. Altogether the election pointed to an unquestionable indifference to voting; in fact the number of voters decreased by 27 per cent since the last election in March, 1919. This decrease was most apparent among the Liberals, who lost 50 per cent; the Social Democrats and Left Socialists lost 35 per cent; but the Conservatives only 4.4 per cent. City Council will consist, for the coming two years, of 48 Social Democrats, 40 Conservatives, 9 Liberals, and 3 Left Socialists. Swedish Academy, the institution which among other things awards the Nobel Prize in Literature, has as successor to the late Professor Rudin, elevated Archbishop Nathan Söderblom to a place "among the Swedish immortals." A remarkable discovery has been made by Docent Kling of the Royal Bacteriological Laboratory, who has segregated a visitant which, at the present writing, is ravaging both Sweden and America, the hitherto unidentified microbe of sleeping sickness.

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Minister Wallenberg:

On Thursday evening, May 5th, the Trustees of the Foundation and its Chapter of New York Associates gave a dinner at the Waldorf-Astoria in honor of Sweden's new minister and Madame Wallenberg. Forty-eight hours before, every ticket for forty tables of ten was sold. A hundred more came at eleven o'clock to see the costume dances of the Swedish Folk Dance Society, and to dance in the adjoining reception rooms. The chief speakers were Jacob Gould Schurman, former Minister of Greece and President of Cornell University, Senator Irvine Luther Lenroot of Wisconsin, and Minister Wallenberg; representatives of nine international associations rose to toasts; and when the toasts to the President and to the King of Sweden were proposed, the room was darkened, and on the screen was thrown a picture of the three Kings. Madame Greta Torpadie and Mr. Ortengren sang. President Harding and the Secretary of State, Minister Morris, and many other officials sent telegrams of greetings. Hamilton Holt acted as toastmaster. Countess Hamilton Holt acted arranging the dinner.

New Lantern Slides

The Norwegian Tourist Traffic Association recently presented to the Information Bureau of the FOUNDATION a set of one hundred lantern slides on Norway, beautifully colored and chosen with discrimination. They will be loaned for lecture purposes and are sent free, together with the text of a carefully prepared lecture, to any responsible person upon payment of express charges.

Advancement of Scandinavian Study

SCANDINAVIAN STUDIES for August, 1920 (VI, 3), contains "Vidga in Scandinavian Hero Legend," by Henning Larsen, and "The 1917 Translation of the Swedish Bible," by Charles A. Williams. The publications of the Society for the Advancement of Scandinavian Study are issued four times a year with some financial support from the Foundation. For copies address the Secretary-Treasurer, Lincoln, Neb.

A Fair Alumna

Miss Greta Linder, a former fellow of the FOUNDATION and now a member of Sweden's library commission, has been on a tour of inspection of the library system of Denmark. Berlingske Tidende publishes a lengthy interview with her in which she compares the Swedish with the Danish situation. The article is illustrated with a Goodwin photograph to show the reader what a "bookworm" of 1921 looks like, and to prove that serious work is no detractor of womanly charm.

Fellow's Publications

Einar Hille's pamphlet on "Some Problems Con-cerning Spherical Harmonics" is typical of the scholarly work done by the students to whom the FOUNDATION awards stipends. Mr. Hille, who has been studying at Harvard University during the past year, has received two significant honors, election to membership in the American Mathematical Society, and appointment by the President and Fellows of Harvard University to be Benjamin Pierce Instructor in Mathematics for one year beginning September 1st, 1921. . . . Almar Naess has published a treatise called "Einige Unter-suchungen über Zweifach Skalare Vektoren."

Japan Heard From

An Associate of the Foundation in Nagoya, Japan, sends in three subscriptions to the Review and writes, "I believe the FOUNDATION is one of the greatest modern agencies, not only for the estab-lishing of international good will, but for educa-tion as well, giving to our budding young a bigger vision of their possibilities and truer appreciation of their heritage both by means of its system of scholarships, and the REVIEW."

Justice Honored

One of our Associates, the Honorable Lewis L. Fawcett, Justice of the Supreme Court, Kings County, Brooklyn, N. Y., has been appointed by King Christian X of Denmark to represent the Danish Grand Lodge of Masons in the State of New York.

Mrs. Egan's Memory

A memorial service was held in St. Ansgar's

Church in Copenhagen for Mrs. Maurice Francis Egan, wife of the former American Minister. Father Flynn of Helsingör celebrated the mass and many old friends attended. Dr. Egan recently received from their Majesties a beautiful wreath for the grave.

Magazine Jottings
Baron Gerhard De Geer, whose geological investigations in the United States in 1920 have been discussed in the REVIEW and the press, contributed to Chemical and Metallurgical Engineering, March 9, 1921, on "Electrical Smelting of Pig Iron at Domnarfvet." Among the illustrations is a reproduction of the old Charter with its dangling seals, presented to the parent company, Stora Koppar-berg, June 16, 1288. So old is industry in Sweden. W. H. Babcock, author of Early Norse Visits to North America, reviews the recent history and present status of the Vinland problem, comparing the evidence as treated in the works of Hovgaard, Nansen, Fossum, and Steensby.

Swedish Chair Endowed
A Swedish Chair at Cambridge University has been founded by a donation of £10,000 collected by Swedish business men and presented through Mr. Marcus Wallenberg, who was one of the donors of the Sweden-U. S. A. Fellowships.

The Foss Fund

The Industrial Fund endowed by Alexander Foss of Copenhagen distributed Kr. 15,600 in 1920. The largest recipient was the Danish Society for Studying the Utilization of Wind Power, Kr. 8,000.

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#### COMMERCIAL NOTES

The Review has for free distribution a few extra copies of an excellent review of trade rela-tions between the United States and Norway by Mr. Arne Kildal, press representative of the Norwegian Ministry of Foreign Affairs, printed in the New York Commercial, March 26th. Most of the Norwegian exports to the United States showed a marked increase in 1920 over 1919. In dried fish, for example, the total exports were (kilograms) 15,740,679 in 1920 as against 6,822,382 in 1919. In paper the exports to the United States were (dollars) 740,556 in 1920 as against only 29,485 in 1919. Of electro-chemical products Norwegian saltpeter shows a heavy gain, export having increased from 63,000 to 117,000 tons, and great progress was made for nitrates, cyanide, carbide, and ferro-silicon. Whaling also took a new lease of life, being resumed in the Arctic ocean and con-tinued in the Antarctic on an extended scale. In 1920 Norway produced fifty per cent of the entire whale oil of the world. Gold reserves in the Bank of Norway increased from 44,700,000 kroner in 1914 to 147,300,000 kroner in 1920.

ASEA IN THE FAEROES

The first hydroelectric power plant on the Faeroe Islands has recently been completed by ASEA for Vaag's Municipality. The order included two three-phase generators, each for 340 KVA, 1,000 r.p.m., and 6,600 volts, with direct connected exciters and necessary switching apparatus and transformers. transformers.

S K F CONTINUES PROSPERITY

While the general industrial situation in Sweden has been affected by the conditions prevailing throughout the world, the expansion in the electrical machinery trade and especially in the ball-bearing and roller-bearing industry continues. Exports from the S K F factories in Göteborg (as well as from the N K A factory) were valued at 90 per cent more for the first nine months of 1920 than in the same period the year before.

DENMARK OFFERS CHEESE

Encouraged by the success that has met the export of butter to America and elsewhere, Danish manufacturers of cheese are now aiming at selling their products abroad in large quantities. Danish roquefort cheese is already well established as a product of superior quality. Efforts will be made toward standardizing the various brands so as to control the quality, somewhat in the way this has been done with Danish butter for export trade.

CANNERS FEAR U. S. TARIFF
After having studied the situation in the United States, Director Natvig, chairman of the Nor-wegian National Canneries' Association, returned to Norway and laid before the association the result of his investigations. He is apprehensive regarding the new tariff move here, because a greatly increased duty would necessarily affect the sales of Norwegian products. The main question, according to Director Natvig, is whether the Norwegian sardine packers can reduce prices sufficiently to meet the competition of the American product.

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#### **INSURANCE NOTES**

NORWEGIAN MERCANTILE MARINE

The Norwegian mercantile marine has in the last year been increased by 123 ships with an aggregate tonnage of 380,000 tons. The whole fleet now includes 1,845 ships of a total tonnage of 2,370,000 tons. After a few years of great prosperity, Norwegian shipping is now in a rather critical state on account of the general commercial depression. Nearly one-fifth of the mercantile marine is laid up. Great Atms

A well-known Swedish financier has recently been endeavoring to arouse the interest of London financiers to form an insurance company with a capital of £10,000,000 for the purpose of guaranteeing exports to Germany and reinsuring in Germany and the United States.

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Leading merchants throughout Norway advocate the teaching of the technique of insurance in the commercial schools of the country, with the award of certificates which would pass the holders into the services of insurance companies without influence or examinations, provided the character of the applicant be good.

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SLEEPS IN ICE WATER

Mr. O. A. Younggren, the inventor of the Ever-Warm Safety-Suit, slept in his suit in the ice fields of Hudson River at West Point, New York, all night during the first week of March, 1921. He entered the water just before midnight and did not come out for about ten hours. It was a scientific test held under the supervision of a physician of the West Point Military Academy. In the early morning, when a crowd gathered from the Academy to see if the inventor was still alive and how he had fared during the night, to their calls of greeting he shouted cheerfully from his icy bed in the river, "I am all right, only I am hungry." The test had clearly proved his contention that it is possible for a person shipwrecked to remain in the coldest water for a long period without suffering any hardships and without feeling any effects of exposure to water and wind.

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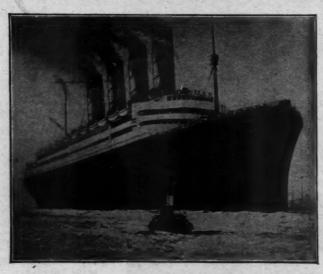
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